

Remarks/Arguments

Reconsideration of this application is requested.

Claim Status

Claims 1-20 were previously presented. By this amendment, claims 1, 13, 14 and 17 are amended, and claims 2, 3 and 15 are canceled without prejudice. Thus, claims 1, 4-14 and 16-20 are now pending.

Claim Rejections – 35 USC 102

Claims 1-3, 6, 8-11 and 13-15 are rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as anticipated by Paillet (US 4,471,246). In response, independent claims 1 and 13 are amended to clearly distinguish over Paillet.

Claims 1 and 13, as amended, recite that the bearing plate is fixed in the axial direction such that movement of the bearing plate on a stator core side is prevented by the stator core and movement of the bearing plate on an end plate side is prevented by the end plate. As a result, the bearing plate is firmly fixed to the end section of the stator and the bearing plate, i.e., a cylindrical bearing for rotatably supporting the rotary shaft, can be accurately positioned. See, for example, applicant's Fig. 2, which shows that second convex sections 62 are supported by stator core 41 on the stator side in the axial direction.

This feature is not disclosed by Paillet. Protuberances 82 of Paillet's support bearing are supported by coil or coil bobbin 5 on the stator side in the axial direction, and not by the stator core. Thus, movement of the bearing plate on a stator core side is not prevented by the stator core, as is required by amended claims 1 and 13. Therefore, since Paillet does not disclose each and every feature of claims 1 and 13, as amended, it cannot anticipate those claims or claims 6, 8-11 and 14 dependent thereon. The rejections under 35 USC 102 should be withdrawn.

Claim Rejections – 35 USC 103

Claims 4, 5, 7, 12 and 16-20 are rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as obvious over Paillet in view of Patel (US 4,107,559). Patel is cited for its disclosure of a bearing plate that does not overlap the end plate in the motor axial direction, but does not

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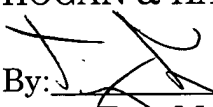
remedy the deficiencies of Paillet discussed with reference to claims 1 and 13. Accordingly, claims 4, 5, 7, 12 and 16-20, which depend from claims 1 and 13, are not rendered obvious by Paillet and Patel. The rejections under 35 USC 103 should be withdrawn.

Conclusion

This application is now in condition for allowance. The Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned to resolve any issues that remain after entry of this amendment. Any fees due with this response may be charged to our Deposit Account No. 50-1314.

Respectfully submitted,
HOGAN & HARTSON L.L.P.

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By: 

Troy M. Schmelzer
Registration No. 36,667
Attorney for Applicant(s)

500 South Grand Avenue, Suite 1900
Los Angeles, California 90071
Phone: 213-337-6700
Fax: 213-337-6701